FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

14 SEPTEMBER 1984

Israel

The Knesset voted 98-18 in favor of the new national unity government, Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hilel announced in a statement broadcast by IDF radio. In his address to the Knesset broadcast by Jerusalem radio, Prime Minister-designate Shim'on Peres stated that the new government was "born out of divisiveness" and faces many challenges in the economic, security, and political fields. The main security goal will be to "secure the well-being" of the Galilee settlements and the return of Israeli soldiers from Lebanon, he noted. He appealed to all Israel's neighbors, particularly Jordan's King Husayn, to join in "real and serious" peace negotiations, and he expressed the desire to "improve and deepen" the relationship with Egypt. Furthermore, he called on the Soviet Union to resume its diplomatic relations. Finally, Peres announced the composition of the new Cabinet, which has been expanded to 25 ministers.

Iran

"Weakness and need" is not the reason for the delay in Iran's promised offensive against Iraq, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani told combatants in a speech reported by Tehran radio. Iran is making "meticulous" preparations for "serious action" in order to shorten the duration of the war and minimize casualties on both sides, he explained. The Majlis speaker also said that President 'Ali Khamene'i's recent visit to Syria, Libya, and Algeria enabled "us" to confront an unspecified "personality" who has sought to divide Arabs from Persians and Sunnis from Shi'ites.

Postponement of Red Sea Conference

The conference of Red Sea littoral states scheduled to begin in Khartoum on 16 September has been postponed because some countries asked for more time to prepare for the meeting, the Sudanese Foreign Ministry disclosed in a statement carried by SUNA. Ethiopian and PDRY officials expressed support for the postponement of the conference in remarks cited by Addis Ababa radio, asserting that "the necessary preparations and negotiations" should be completed before the meeting is held.

Lebanon

Military Talks With Syria — Talks began in Beirut between a Syrian delegation led by Army Deputy Chief of Staff Major General 'Ali Aslan and a Lebanese delegation led by Army Commander General Michael 'Awn, Beirut radio reported. They will discuss implementation of the mountain security plan.

Phalangist Leaders — Dr Elie Karamah was elected as the new leader of the Phalange Party, Dr George Sa'adah was elected as the deputy leader, and Joseph Sa'adah was reappointed its secretary general, Voice of Lebanon radio announced.

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Economic Cooperation Talks Held With USSR

LD131812 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] The fourth session of the Permanent Commission for Afghan-Soviet Economic Cooperation was held in Kabul 11-13 September. The Afghan delegation was led by Sarwar Mangal, deputy prime minister and chairman of the DRA Planning Committee; and the Soviet delegation was led by Ziya Nuriyevich Nuriyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

The Soviet delegation was received by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council; and by Prime Minister Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand. The work of the commission was held in an atmosphere of friendship and complete understanding.

The Afghan-Soviet commission assessed the implementation of decisions taken earlier and appraised specific matters regarding the consolidation and expansion of commercial and economic relations between the DRA and the Soviet Union.

The commission studied the implementation of joint responsibilities set out in the long-term agreement concerning the exchange of goods for 1981-85 and the protocol concerning the exchange of goods for 1984, and stated with complete confidence that in general the responsibilities of both sides during the past years were successfully realized.

The commission paid special attention to questions related to economic and technical cooperation in the spheres of agriculture and irrigation, fuels and energy, transportation and communication, light industries and consumer goods, mines surveying, and the training of national cadres.

A Bia correspondent reports that a protocol on the fourth session of the Permanent Commission for Afghan-Soviet Economic Cooperation was signed this afternoon at the Council of Ministers headquarters.

The protocol was signed for the Afghan side by Sarwar Mangal, deputy prime minister and chairman of the DRA State Planning Committee, head of the Afghan delegation to the commission; and for the Soviet side by Ziya Nuriyevich Nuriyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and head of the Soviet delegation to the commission. The documents were exchanged. The signing ceremony was attended by Prime Minister Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand.

According to the protocol, the Soviet Union will give all-round and comprehensive assistance to the DRA in the areas of agriculture and irrigation, industries, mines and energy, transportation and communication, construction, planning, and the training of cadres, and in socioeconomic areas. The protocol envisages that the volume of trade between the Soviet Union and the DRA will be increased further. Also during this session, tasks entrusted to joint Afghan-Soviet establishments during the third session of the commission were positively assessed. According to another report, an agreement on credit for consumer goods amounting to R100 million for 1985-90 was signed this afternoon between the DRA Ministry of Commerce and the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade. The relevant documents were exchanged.

The agreement was signed by Mohammad Khan Jalalar, DRA minister of commerce, and by Ivan Timofeyevich Grishin, USSR deputy minister of foreign trade. Present at the ceremony were: Prime Minister Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand; deputy prime minister Sarwar Mangal, chairman of the DRA State Planning Committee; Ziya Nuriyevich Nuriyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and F.A. Tabeyev, Soviet ambassador to Kabul.

According to the agreement, the Soviet Union will assist Afghanistan by providing a quantity of consumer goods — the list of which was drawn previously — for the coming 5 years. The proceeds from the sale of these consumer goods will finance part of the local expenditure on projects which are being built with the assistance of the Soviet Union.

Statement by USSR's Nuriyev

LD132228 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Statement by Ziya Nuriyev, vice chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, to unidentified Kabul radio correspondent on the status of DRA-USSR economic cooperation and its prospects — recorded in Russian with superimposed Dari translation; date not specified]

[Text] According to previous agreement, the fourth session of the commission on economic cooperation between the USSR and the Afghanistan Government was convened between 11-13 September 1984.

The session recalled the successful implementation of the resolutions and recommendations of the third session and approved the work results of the Soviet and Afghan institutions in the duties allotted to them. Discussion was also held about the means for the future development of bilateral commercial and economic relations.

A protocol which was concluded by myself and Sarwar Mangal, vice chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers and head of the State Planning Committee, contains agreements about various issues in relation to the economic, technical, and commercial cooperation between the two countries.

The Soviet Union will continue its cooperation with the DRA in the development of various fields of the economy of the young Republic of Afghanistan, such as energy, fuel industries, construction, agriculture, transport, communications, survey of and extraction from useful mines, and training of national cadres; thus the process of economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan will aid in solving the issues on socioeconomic transformations which have been raised since the victory of the Sawr Revolution.

In the DRA, 90 projects have been built and are being utilized as a result of the hard work of Afghanistan's toilers and by the operation of the Soviet Union and now form the foundation of

the national economy. These enterprises produce 70 percent of the government sector output. As a result of the Soviet cooperation with the DRA, the gas extraction and transportation industries, silos and bakeries, electrical stations and transmission lines, power plants, fertilizer factories, Jangalak mills, the Kabul house construction factory, and more than 1,000 km of roads for vehicles have been built.

Hundreds of young boys and girls of Afghanistan have completed their education in high institutions and intermediate vocational education in the USSR, as well as in polytechnic institutes, mechanical technicums, and gas and petroleum institutes built in Afghanistan with the cooperation of the USSR.

Thousands of Afghan workers who have worked in the construction of enterprises and industrial projects, side by side with Soviet experts, either have increased the level of their knowledge or have learned a new profession. All these gains are the products of the friendly and good-neighborly relations between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan, whose foundation was laid at the beginning of the Soviet state with the direct participation of Lenin.

The Afghan leaders, soon after the full restoration of Afghanistan's independence, whose anniversary was marked recently by the Afghan people, announced the strengthening and consolidation of their relations with their northern neighbor.

In 1984, the 35th anniversary of the signing of the first long-term economic and technical cooperation agreement between the two countries — an important event in the economic relations of the Soviet Union and Afghanistan — was marked. The implementation of this agreement showed to the world public and, first of all, to the developing Asian, Africa, and Latin American countries, that they can stand against the economic pressure of the imperialist countries by relying on the friendship and disinterested assistance of the Soviet Union.

Such strivings by the imperialist countries have not yet (?stopped). Chernenko, secretary general of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has said: The reactionary imperialist circles cannot adapt themselves to the fundamental development process of the contemporary world. They perceive that the course of the evolution of history is in the interest of socialism and in the interest of the restoration of national emancipation foundations and social justice in every corner of the world. Hence, they are striving to exert pressure in international affairs, seeking to sever the legal course of history. Such strivings, however, will not gain their objectives.

In the consultative economic session of the leaders of COMECON, it was seriously pointed out that the member-states of COMECON will continue their cooperation with the developing countries in the future in order to assist their national economy and to consolidate the national independence and the development of reciprocal beneficial economic relations. The treaty of friendship, good-neighborliness, and reciprocal cooperation, concluded on 5 December 1978 between the USSR and the DRA, after the victory of the national and democratic revolution in Afghanistan, laid a solid foundation for the progress of the parties' relations. The permanent commission between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan was also founded in the same year [as heard]. The task of this commission is to facilitate the active solution of the issues relating to implementation [word indistinct] of economic cooperation in the framework of good relations between our governments and [words indistinct]. After the Sawr Revolution, more than 100 formal documents regarding economic relations were signed.

Among the projects which have been built during this period by the joint work of Afghan and Soviet workers, we can mention the project for Jerqodoq gas transportation, oil reserves, transport installations, mechanized agricultural stations, a new bakery in Kabul, centers for the training of cadres, and so on. The work to expand the Kabul airport, the railway station of Torghondi, and the technical equipment of the Salang tunnel are underway. The electric transmission line is under construction and technical-professional (?centers) for the training of expert workers will be created.

The fact that the DRA, under the leadership of the PDPA and the revolutionary government of the country, has attained specific victories for the consolidation of the country's economic pillars and improvement of the people's living standard is clear to us. These victories are [word indistinct] because these have been attained in the harsh circumstances of struggle against the domestic and external counterrevolutionaries and the undeclared war of imperialistic forces against the DRA.

In the congratulatory message of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the Government of the Soviet Union addressed to the leaders of the DRA on the occasion of the 6th anniversary of the Sawr Revolution, the following was stated: The people and Government of Afghanistan can be assured that the people of the Soviet Union will continue their internationalist assistance for the defense of the gains of the Sawr Revolution and the creation of a satisfactory condition for the progress of the country and its constructive evolution.

Karachi Reports Rebels Repulse 'Massive Attack'

BK140254 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the Afghan mujahidin successfully repulsed a massive attack by Soviet-Karmal troops in the Pashmul area of Qandahar Province early this month. A large number of tanks and armored vehicles were used in this attack, and, in the ensuing fierce fighting, the Soviet-Karmal troops took heavy casualties and were forced to retreat, leaving a large number of dead and wounded soldiers behind. The mujahidin shot down a Mig aircraft and damaged a number of tanks and armored vehicles. About 20 Karmal soldiers surrendered to the mujahidin. Some 25 mujahidin were martyred in this fighting.

Ershad on 'Unprecedented Progress' in Economy

BK140838 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Excerpt] The president and chief martial law administrator, Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad, has said the development programs of the government aim at building Bangladesh as a self-reliant and self-respected country. Addressing the chairmen and members of union parishad [councils] and chairmen and commissioners of paurosabhas [municipal corporations] under Narayanganj District yesterday, the president said despite limitation of resources, the government had been making all out efforts to improve the condition of the common man.

The president underlined the importance of peace and discipline in the society for uninterrupted development and progress. He said the nation had achieved unprecedented progress in different sectors of national economy as a result of the continued peace and discipline during the past 2 and 1/2 years. The president called for shunning the path of destruction and violence and said the nation would not forgive those who had been trying to destroy the gains of development. Referring to the problems in Narayanganj District, the president said the government will continue to do everything possible to improve communications and other facilities in the area.

Economic, Technical Talks With Malaysia Begin

BK140650 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] The first Bangladesh-Malaysia joint committee meeting has begun in Kuala Lumpur under the framework of economic and technical cooperation agreement. The agreement was signed between the two countries in April 1979. The Bangladesh delegation is being led by the secretary of external resources division, Mr M. Muniruzzaman, while the Malaysian side is headed by the secretary general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tan Sri Zainal Abidin Sulong. Discussions were held yesterday in a very cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Earlier, the leader of the Bangladesh delegation accompanied by the high commissioner of Bangladesh to Malaysia, Mr (Farooq Subhan), called on the foreign minister of Malaysia, Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen. The secretary general of the Foreign Ministry was also present. The foreign minister underscored the desire of Malaysia to further strengthen relations between the two countries and their wish to see concrete results emerge from the joint committee meeting.

Activities of Opposition Groups Detailed

BK131124 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 10 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] The 15-party alliance at a meeting on Monday reviewed the fast deteriorating political, economic and law and order situation in the country. Sheikh Hasina Wajed, chief of the Awami League, presided. The meeting held at the central office of Awami League discussed the programme prepared by the City 15-party alliance for the observance of day-long hartal [strike] on September 27. Dhaka city leaders of the alliance attended the meeting.

In a resolution, the alliance said that the Government was maintaining silence over the seizure of arms by Italian naval intelligence from a ship hired by two Bangladeshi nationals despite demands by the Opposition for a clear statement. The resolution further said that this silence is a matter of concern after the Interpol had informed our government about it. When the Opposition was in movement for restoration of democracy, the seizure of arms and the government's silence is meaningful, the resolution added. It demanded an immediate statement by the government giving details about this incident.

A delegation of Coordination Council of the Bar Association led by its president, Mr Shamsul Huq Chowdhury, attended the meeting and exchanged views with alliance leaders. The lawyers expressed solidarity with the democratic movement.

The meeting called upon all concerned to preserve the image of the judiciary in the national interest.

The Central Organising Committee of Bangladesh Krishak Sramik Awami League (Baksal) in a resolution adopted at its meeting on Monday demanded of the Government to reveal the conspiracy hatched by those who booked arms in a ship seized by Italian intelligence. The meeting expressed concern over the silence of the Government in this regard.

The meeting in a resolution said that it observed with concern that more than six crore people affected by the devastating flood were passing their days in hardship. The steps taken by the present Government to redress the sufferings of these people were inadequate.

The meeting demanded supply of adequate relief to the flood affected people of the country and publication of a white paper on donations received from various sources for flood victims.

Mr Mohiuddin Ahmed, chairman of the party, presided over the meeting. The meeting held at the central office of the party has been adjourned till 10 a.m. today (Tuesday) says a press release.

Delhi Says Fresh Floods Worsening Situation

BK131618 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] In Bangladesh, the situation in four northern districts has worsened because of fresh floods. All India Radio Dhaka correspondent Prabhakar Mishra, quoting official sources, reports that about 28.1 million people in 402 out of 460 upazilas [subdistricts] have been affected by the current unprecedented floods since May this year. Over 550 people have died and more than 71,000 head of cattle perished. The crops on about 5.6 million hectares have been completely destroyed.

Further on Terrorist Attacks in Punjab

Gandhi Comments on Killings

BK131624 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] The prime minister has said that the opposition parties are adopting an attitude of confrontation with the ruling party at the center. Addressing the concluding session of the 2-day National Students Union of India [NSUI] convention in Nagpur today, Mrs Gandhi said that there had been opposition governments in various states in the past, but it is only now that the opposition parties have embarked on the path of confrontation. This, she said, is hampering the government's efforts to solve problems of the people. Mrs Gandhi said she has no quarrel with the opposition parties, but the ideology and the ideas some of them believed in are dangerous to democracy and the country's unity.

The prime minister reaffirmed that the center had no hand in the fall of the N. T. Rama Rao ministry in Andhra Pradesh. Opposition governments in some states have fallen due to their inherent contradictions or internal differences. This is what had happened in Andhra Pradesh also, she added.

Earlier, speaking to newsmen, she said it is for the governor to take a decision regarding the developments in the [Andhra Pradesh] state.

Referring to the Punjab situation, Mrs Gandhi said yesterday's killings of innocent bus passengers prove that those behind the terrorism in the state do not want things to be normal. She said only a portion of the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar is being guarded by the security forces. The forces have been withdrawn from the other parts of the complex a long time ago. Replying to a question, the prime minister said that no favoritism was shown to Santa Singh in allowing him to lead the Kar Sewa [voluntary community service] in the Golden Temple. She said that a number of Sikhs were in favor of undertaking repair work in the temple. The Sikh community was against keeping the damaged part of the temple as a monument.

In her address to the NSUI, she urged the youth to ensure proper implementation of development programs by establishing strong links with the people and devoting themselves to rooting out corruption and poverty.

Security Forces Intensify Search

BK131620 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] The Punjab governor, Mr K.T. Satarawala, has said that the government will continue to deal with extremists firmly to curb their antinational activities. Expressing shock over the dastardly killings of innocent bus passengers near Batala and the victims of the handgrenade blast in Jullundur, Mr Satarawala sought the cooperation of all political, social and religious leaders to deal with the situation. The governor has announced an ex gratia payment of 10,000 rupees each to the families of those killed and 2,000 rupees each for those wounded. He visited the Jullundur civil hospital and the site of the killings of the bus passengers and the hospital where the wounded persons have been admitted.

The Himachal Pradesh assembly unanimously adopted a resolution condemning the incident. It called upon all patriotic forces to rise above all barriers and fight this extremism jointly. The Haryana chief minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, also condemned the killings. The Punjab State Congress-I has also expressed shock at the killings. Towns of Gurdaspur, Pathankot, and Dhariwal observed a strike today in protest against the killings of bus passengers last night.

Meanwhile, the security forces in Punjab have intensified their combing operations. An official spokesman said in New Delhi that border check points have been alerted to prevent the terrorists from escaping to any neighboring country.

Bus Service Suspended

BK140329 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] In Punjab, security forces have intensified mopping-up operations to apprehend miscreants indulging in terrorist activity. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that necessary security arrangements have been made throughout the state in view of the bundh [strike] called today by some political and other organizations. The call for the bundh has been given to protest against the shooting of eight bus passengers near Batala and the death of one person in a bomb blast in Jullundur on Wednesday evening. The Punjab government has suspended all passenger buses in the state till 1300 today as a precautionary measure. The spokesman said law and order will be maintained in the state at all costs. The Chandigarh administration has also suspended its bus service to areas in Punjab today. However, buses on other routes as well as local bus service will operate as usual. Police patrolling in the union territory has also been intensified.

Day-Long Strike Begins

BK140419 Hong Kong AFP in English 0406 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 14 (AFP) — A day-long strike began in Punjab today to protest against the killing of Hindu passengers by suspected Sikhs as Sikh and Hindu organizations joined in condemning the incident, reports reaching here today said.

Suspected Sikh gunmen hijacked a local bus in Punjab Wednesday, singled out eight Hindu passengers and shot them dead, local news agencies UNI and PTI said. A federal spokesman put the toll at 14 dead.

The state-run radio said that bus services in the border state had been suspended since dawn today and that security forces had been put on full alert.

The impact of the strike was not immediately known.

The radio, quoting officials, said that mopping up operations against Sikh militants operating in the Punjab had been intensified, but did not say if anyone was arrested. A section of the

state's predominantly Sikh population is pressing for autonomy or even a separate Sikh state.

Meanwhile, Hindu-dominated Haryana State, which borders Punjab, remained under full alert as the administration there feared a Hindu backlash to the killing.

Strike Receives 'Mixed Response'

BK140754 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] In Punjab, a statewide bundh [strike] is being observed today in protest against the recent killings of bus passengers and the bomb blast at a cinema hall. Reports say that there has been a mixed response to the call for the bundh. In some places, schools were also closed. The bundh was nearly complete in several areas of Ferozepur District. The Punjab government suspended bus service in the state this morning as a precautionary measure. No report of any untoward incident has been received so far. Deployment of security forces has been strengthened to maintain law and order.

PATRIOT Cites Captured Terrorists on Training

BK131129 Delhi PATRIOT in English 4 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] Interrogation of the terrorists apprehended by the Army during the Punjab operation have confirmed a "deep rooted conspiracy" to destabilise and dismember India, reports UNI [UNITED NEWS of INDIA].

According to a publication of the All India Congress Committee-I, "Conspiracy Exposed," the targets of "this diabolic plot" were Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and Rajasthan.

Pakistani agents disguised as Sikhs were trained in Kasur area of Pakistan by a brigadier of the Pakistan artillery regiment.

These men, in batches of 300 to 400, were given three-to-four months intensive training.

"It is believed that American CIA agents helped the Pakistan intelligence in imparting this training. The CIA agents worked as station chief or as second in command," the publication says. [this paragraph in boldface type]

Another training centre was run in a Sikh gurdwara [temple] at Emnabad in Gujranwala District. Some specialised training in espionage work and black propaganda was imparted there, the publication says.

Similar training centres were set up at Rahim Yar Khan near the Rajasthan border, Attok Fort, Daud Fort and Sheikhpura city. Training was also imparted in the military college at Abotabed in batches of 200 to 300, it said.

The publication also said the most of those trained in these camps and training centres were smugglers, proclaimed offenders and criminals generally operating on the international border.

They had been recruited by the Pakistan intelligence through influential persons living in the border districts of Punjab and Rajasthan and lured with promises of withdrawal of cases pending against them as well as substantial financial help.

After completion of their training, which included use of sophisticated weapons, the terrorists were inducted into Punjab from various points in Jammu, Rajasthan and Punjab to conduct "operations" against the Indian security forces.

The points of entry of these terrorists were given out as Hira Nagar in Kathua District of Jammu, Hassaobarwan sector in the Gurdaspur District, Khem Karan area in Amritsar District, Memdoot sector in Ferozepur District and Ganganagar in Rajasthan, the booklet says.

Together with these terrorists, arms and ammunition were smuggled into Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab across the ceasefire line and the international border.

As the Sikh jathas [religious group] went to the gurdwara in Pakistan, some members of these jathas, who were recognised contact men, were used as "carriers" for transporting arms and ammunition into Punjab, it is stated in the publication.

Pakistan intelligence men under disguise mixed with the jathas and crossed into Punjab to further the "Khalistan" movement. "They encouraged the secessionist activities and help out with assurances of large amounts of financial help," the publication says.

1-Day Curfew Lifted in Madhya Pradesh Town

BK140344 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] In Madhya Pradesh, day curfew has been lifted in (Sindhwa) town near Indore as the situation is fast returning to normal. According to official report, the curfew however would remain in force from 1900 to 0600. Prohibitory orders under Section 144 [prohibiting assembly of five or more persons at one place] would also remain in force in the town as a precautionary measure. Sixty-one persons have been arrested so far.

Andhra Pradesh Speaker To Decide on Next Session

BK140312 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] The new pro tem speaker of Andhra Pradesh legislative assembly, Mr Sultan Salauddin Owaisi, has said that he will take a decision on the next sitting of the house today. Talking to All Indian Radio Hyderabad correspondent this morning, he indicated that the condolence motion on the death of the sitting legislator and the motion of confidence in the Bhaskara Rao ministry will be on the agenda for the new sitting also. Mr Owaisi yesterday called on the governor, Dr S.D. Sharma, soon after assuming office as the pro tem speaker.

Mr N.T. Rama Rao in a letter to the governor has protested against the appointment of Mr Owaisi as pro tem speaker and

suggested that a regular speaker be elected. Six small leaders of opposition parties supporting Mr Rama Rao in the assembly in a joint statement have also made a similar plea.

Meanwhile, the state-level action committee of political parties supporting Mr Rama Rao has demanded the dismissal of Bhaskara Rao ministry as the 1-month time to prove the majority will be over by today evening, as the committee put it.

The situation in Hyderabad city is gradually improving. The curfew is being relaxed in 10 localities for 13 hours from 0900 this morning. These areas include Sultan Bazar, Malakpeth, and (Chadarghat). A police spokesman said that patrolling has been intensified in all the affected areas. There were no reports of any untoward incidents during the night, he added.

20 Sep Meeting Planned

BK140743 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] According to news agency reports, the Andhra Pradesh assembly will meet on the 20th of this month. The new pro tem speaker, Sultan Salauddin Owaisi, said this to newsmen in Hyderabad this morning. A condolence resolution on the death of a sitting member followed by a motion of confidence in the chief minister, Mr Bhaskara Rao, will be on the agenda of that day.

Congress-I Reaffirms Support for Bhaskara Rao

BK140959 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] The leader of the Congress-I legislative party, Mr A. Madan Mohan, announced in Hyderabad today that there is no change in the stand of the party in extending support to the Bhaskara Rao ministry. Mr Madan Mohan was talking to newsmen after a general body meeting of the Congress-I legislature party which reviewed the current political situation in the state. The party has urged the governor in a memorandum to secure what it called the release of some legislators who are alleged to be held in the Ramakrishina studios. The party said this is necessary to enable those legislators to exercise their free will.

Talks Begin With Bangladesh on River Transport

BK140813 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Indo-Bangla talks on extension of protocol on inland water transport and trade begin in New Delhi today. The protocol is valid till the 3d of next month. A 4-member delegation from Bangladesh, led by the secretary for shipping and inland water transport, Mr Kamaluddin Chowdhury, arrived in the capital to take part in the discussions. The protocol, which was signed in 1972, is renewed every year. It identified eight river routes for the passage of goods between the two countries. The delegation yesterday called on the minister for shipping and transport, Mr Virendra Patil. Mr Patil suggested that the two countries should consider extension of the protocol for a period longer than 1 year.

THE STATESMAN Cites Sources on Border Clash

BK131126 Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 31 Aug 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Srinagar, Aug. 30 — Six Pakistani soldiers were killed when they attempted to sneak into Indian territory through the line of actual control in the Uri sector on Monday, according to official sources here, reports PTI. There were no casualities on the Indian side.

The sources said that a major clash was sparked off when, under heavy covering fire, some Pakistani troops tried to enter Indian territory but were repulsed. After the incident, a sporadic exchange of fire between the two sides continued for two more days.

This is the third major intruston attempt by Pakistani troops into Indian territory in the Jammu and Kashmir sector over the past few months.

The first major incident had taken place near the Siachen glacier in the frontier region of Ladakh in April, during which Pakistani troops were repulsed when they tried to capture some posts held by India since 1947. A fortnight ago, six Pakistani soldiers were killed when they tried to cross the line of actual control in the Kargil sector.

Yaqub Khan Returns From Iran, Comments

BK140729 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has said there is an identity of views between Pakistan and Iran with regard to the ultimate aim of the process of indirect negotiations on Afghanistan, despite a different approach to the problem. He was talking to newsmen at the airport on his return to Islamabad this evening after a 3-day official visit to Iran.

The foreign minister said he and his Iranian counterpart discussed a number of regional issues, particularly Afghanistan. He briefed the Iranian foreign minister and other Iranian leaders on recent indirect talks in Geneva. He assured them once again that the objectives of both Iran and Pakistan remained the same.

Answering a question about the return of Afghan refugees to their homes, the foreign minister said Pakistan attached a great deal of importance to the consultation of the refugees by the special UN representative with regard to the condition for their return, and the interests of the people of Afghanistan were the foremost.

He said he briefed the Iranian leaders on Pakistan's relations with the Soviet Union and India. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said he also discussed the Middle East problem, especially the need for full support to the Palestine cause. The Iran-Iraq war was also touched upon.

The foreign minister said the main purpose of his visit to Iran was to strengthen and broaden bilateral relations, especially in the economic and commercial fields, and it was fully achieved. He said during his stay in Tehran, he met the Iranian president, Mr Khamene'i; the prime minister, Mr Musavi; and the speaker, Mr Rafsanjani. The Iranian president during his talks with the Pakistan foreign minister expressed his happiness over the exchange of visits by the officials of the two countries for strengthening their existing relations. The foreign minister conveyed to the Iranian president compliments from President Mohammad Ziaul Haq. The Iranian president expressed thanks for the compliments.

The Iranian prime minister welcomed the progress in bilateral relations and stressed the need for further expanding mutual cooperation, particularly in the fields of trade and commerce.

Earlier in their second round of formal talks, the foreign ministers of the two countries had an in-depth review of bilateral relations.

BBC Reports Opposition Stance on Elections

BK141230 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Alex Brodie report in "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] For our first report we go to Pakistan, where the main outlawed political parties have agreed on joint measures to unify their opposition to the military government of President Ziaul Haq. After 3 days of clandestine talks in the city of Lahore, the leaders of the Movement for Restoration of Democracy have announced an electoral alliance. More on this from Alex Brodie in Lahore:

[Begin Brodie recording] It is intended as a blueprint for a democratic government of national unity and as a formal burying of the hatchet between many parties which have in the past been enemies and have fought over the electoral spoils. Such rivalry opened the door to the rule of General Ziaul Haq which so far has lasted 7 years. The declaration, said one politician, represents the greatest unity the opposition to military rule has ever achieved. The declaration, which was merely a draft proposal 3 days ago, must however still be signed by the actual leaders or, in the cases where they are in exile or in jail, by the acting leaders of the 11 parties, as several of them were prevented from coming to Lahore by the military government. It became clear at the Lahore meeting that 10 of the 11 parties will sign the declaration in the next few days. One — the centrist Tehrik-I-Istiqlal will not sign yet. This is because its central committee has decided to wait for General Ziaul Haq to reveal his detailed plans for the elections before it decides whether to participate or not. [end recording]

DPRK's Kang Song-san Makes Stopover in Karachi

BK141001 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] The DPRK premier, Kang Song-san, made a brief stopover at the Karachi airport on his way home from Saudi Arabia early this morning. He was leading a 34-member delegation, including the foreign minister, Kim Yong-nam.

FRG's Kohl To Visit Islamabad, Meet Zia 13 Oct

BK140738 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Federal German Chancellor Dr Helmut Kohl will pay a brief visit to Pakistan next month at the invitation of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq. He is to arrive in Islamabad on 13 October. During his stay in Pakistan, he will exchange views with the president on bilateral relations and major regional and international issues. He will leave for (?home) the next day.

Committee Reviews Narcotics Enforcement

BK140801 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] The meeting of the federal committee on enforcement of narcotics control laws in Islamabad yesterday reviewed steps the government is taking to check the narcotics trade in the country. It decided to make the coordination among law enforcing agencies stronger and more effective. The committee also decided to strengthen the joint task force for narcotics control. It approved a comprehensive action plan to eliminate narcotics bases in each province.

SRI LANKA

State of Emergency To Continue in North, East

BK141118 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] President Jayewardene met a delegation of opposition parties on Wednesday to discuss certain matters relating to the holding of the by-elections. The president told them that although the state of emergency would have to continue, he intended to withdraw all regulations made in respect of all areas in the country other than the northern and eastern provinces.

The delegation comprising representatives of the Lanka Sama Samaja Party, Communist Party, Mahajana Eksath Peramuna and the Sri Lanka Mahajana Pakshaya, met the president on his invitation. This delegation earlier wrote a letter to the president regarding the necessity that any intended by-election should be conducted in a free and fair manner.

The president told the delegation that it would be difficult under present circumstances to hold the pending by-elections in the Trincomalee and Paddiruppu electorates. He nevertheless intended to see that the announced by-elections in the Minneriya and Kundasale electorates would be held.

With regard to the matter of proscribed parties mentioned in the letter to the president, the president stated that he intended to remove the proscription of the Nava Sama Samaja Party, but was not in a position to do the same in respect of the Janata Vimukthi Peramuna.

The president also added that he would consider the proposal that the police should be administratively asked to implement the request of the commission of election with regard to matters coming under the election law. On the request of the delegation that the by-election should be held in all cases where vacancies occur in Parliament, the president said that he was favorably disposed to this idea and will discuss this with his Cabinet as the members of the present Parliament who were elected on the proportional representation system.

Athulathmudali Denies Army Role in Bus Incident

BK131346 Hong Kong AFP in English 1323 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] Colombo, Sept 13 (AFP) — The national security minister has dismissed the possibility that soldiers were responsible for Tuesday's dawn massacre of 15 civilian passengers on a hijacked bus in Sri Lanka's troubled northern province.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali also said top investigators from the Criminal Investigation Department were assigned to the case yesterday.

The minister told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that there was "absolutely no doubt" that soldiers were not responsible for the dawn massacre as a reprisal for the killing of nine soldiers by militant Tamil separatists in the adjoining Mullaittivu District on Monday.

He said the five men who killed the passengers at Vavuniya, 254 kilometers (158 miles) north of here, after hijacking their bus en route from Colombo to the northern capital of Jaffna, could have been "plain robbers."

Witnesses had said one of them was in some kind of uniform.

The 20 bus passengers who ran away from the killing were still considered missing as they had not reported to police or the district administrative offices.

Some residents of the Tamil-dominated north said the Army had been behind the attack.

But other sources said investigators were also working on the theory that militant Tamil separatists were behind the murders in order to put the blame on security forces and spark an international outcry.

Militant Tamils are campaigning for a separate state in Sri Lanka's north and east, where the country's 2.5 million Tamil minority is concentrated.

In a separate incident, police reports reaching here said an armed gang had held up a state-owned bus at Kamalankulam in northern Sri Lanka Tuesday afternoon and abducted 10 passengers. But the state ministry said today it had no confirmation of the reports.

The reports indicated the armed gang stopped the bus en route from Nedunkerni to Muttiyankattu on the pretext of doing a security check. The gang released the driver and the bus after taking the 10 passengers. Two bodies were found near Mullaittivu, but it was not immediately established whether they were those of passengers on the bus.

An armed gang was also reported to have set fire Tuesday to some shops in Nedunkerni, 40 kilometers (25 miles) north of Vavuniya.

The presidential secretariat, meanwhile, announced today that the government would relax the 16-month old state of emergency to hold two parliamentary by-elections for the Minneriya and Kundasale seats. The seats fell vacant with the deaths of the two sitting members from the ruling United National Party.

President Junius Jayewardene has also decided to lift the ban on the Nava Sama Samaja Party (New Socialist Party) while retaining the ban on the People's Liberation Front (JVP), both proscribed shortly after anti-Tamil riots in July 1983, in which nearly 400 persons died.

Engineers at the state-owned radio's Kandy station, 115 kilometers (72 miles) northeast of here, told police they had picked up a voice claiming to be from the clandestine "Tamil Eelam Radio," or Tamil separatist radio, on an inter-station frequency Tuesday night.

The inter-service frequency cannot be picked up on normal radio receivers. Sources said police were investigating on the basis that the pirate transmitter was within a five-mile radius of the Kandy station.

Jaffna Closures Protest Killings

BK140948 Hong Kong AFP in English 0918 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Colombo, Sept 14 (AFP) — Shops and schools were closed today in Jaffna, capital of Sri Lanka's troubled northern province, as residents protested the alleged hijack-killing by soldiers of 16 bus passengers this week, official sources said.

Police reports from Jaffna said that most shops stayed shut today and a student boycott of classes entered its fifth day. State-owned buses were running, but private bus operators pulled their vehicles off the roads.

Tuesday's dawn hijack-killing was carried out by an armed five-man gang which held up a bus en route from Colombo to Jaffna at Vavuniya, 254 kilometers (158 miles) north of here. The gang shot 14 passengers dead and wounded several others. One of the wounded died Tuesday in hospital and another died yesterday.

Some Tamils have blamed the Army for the incident, saying soldiers were retaliating for the killing of nine of their colleagues near Mullaitivu by Tamil separatists. The separatists want to set up an independent Tamil state in Sri Lanka's north and east, where most of the country's 2.5 million minority Tamils live.

The government has strongly denied charges that the Army was responsible, saying that attempts are being made to blame the Army in order to win international sympathy for the Tamil cause, particularly in southern India's Tamil Nadu State.

Sri Lankan authorities say many Tamil separatists guerrillas are being sheltered and trained in Tamil Nadu, the traditional homeland of the Tamils. "The Army has even asked us to do ballistic checks on their weapons which are accounted for," National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told AGENCE FRANCE PRESS today.

Meanwhile, more senior investigators flew into Vavuniya today to help search for the gang as police began investigating a new lead in the case.

Mr Athulathmudali said that investigators were working on a new lead based on statements by passengers who escaped the shooting. Several of them have told police they were going to Jaffna to retrieve their money from a person who allegedly duped them by promising them jobs as seamen. The man had allegedly collected around 25,000 rupees (1,000 dollars) from each of them but had refused to return it.

Police are now said to be looking for the employment agent in hopes he could help in their investigations. Police are reportedly looking into whether the selective shooting of young Tamil passengers on the bus was an attempt to cover up the real motive for the killings by shifting the blame to the Armed Forces.

Meanwhile, two men who were shot by unknown assailants died in the Jaffna hospital yesterday. Authorities said they were walking together when they were cut down by bullets, apparently fired from a height. No one has claimed responsiblity for the incident.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Addresses Combatants

LD131405 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] A group of mobilization and Guards Corps combatants from the Khatam al-Anbiya Headquarters and a number of the members of the engineering under secretary's office at the Corps Ministry met Hashemi-Rafsanjani yesterday afternoon. During this meeting, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said in a speech: I am confident that all the combatants throughout the fronts are awaiting the promised moment and the order to launch operations and are asking themselves: Why is that promised moment not coming? As the spokesman of the Supreme Defense Council I say that the reason for that is something other than our weakness and need. Our enemies wish to portray the reason as weakness, need, and lack of preparedness in order to infuse some morale into their military. As a matter of fact, we enjoy the best conditions on the fronts from every standpoint; our might is improving daily, and we do not suffer from any anxiety of difficulty whatsoever.

The Supreme Defense Council spokesman said: Meticulous and well-worked out calculations are in progress so that, God willing, we will embark on serious action to shorten the duration of the war and minimize, as far as possible, the loss of such dear forces as you combatants, and similarly, so that fewer of Iraq's forces will perish. [We wish] to achieve the salvation of the region and the Iraqi people from the evil of the Ba'th Party and to embark on more important issues later.

Thanks to the efforts of revolutionary research workers and scientists and the ministry's engineering under secretary's office, who have made war preparations behind the front, once we begin our task everyone will realize that there is no problem whatsoever!

Continuing his speech, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council said: Our enemies sometimes put forward the issue of the balance of forces or the superiority of the Iraqi Air Force or the deadlock in the war. One U.S. policy expert said a few days ago: U.S. policy is based on the fact that Iran should not triumph in the war and since Iraq has no chance of winning a victory, the only danger threatening the United States is Iran. Should Iran win a victory, the situation in the region will be disrupted; U.S. interests will be endangered; and the victory willculminate in the revival of Muslim and Islamic forces in the region and throughout the world.

The spokesman of the Supreme Defense Council added: The United States thinks that it can prevent this victory. In their analyses they sometimes say: Differences have cropped up among the responsible leaders of the Islamic Republic. A certain wing in Iran does not support the war! Such remarks demonstrate the enemy's terror. All these obstacles, barbed wire, explosive barrels, water canals, and thousands of other obstacles which Iraq is creating on the forward lines are indicative of the Saddamists' extreme fear and anxiety. None of these can save Saddam Husayn. From social, propaganda, political, and other considerations we have obtained access to routes which could be extremely useful to us.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani then referred to the issue of the hijacking of three aircraft to Iraq and said: The world has been disarmed in the field of propaganda. These people wanted to accuse us of being terrorists, but now the Westerners and our arrogant enemies, joining voices with the domestic counterrevolutionaries and together with the international forums claiming human rights and love of mankind, have remained silent about this action. All that hue and cry about the security of sea and air routes is no longer heard. They took a passenger airliner to Iraq and kept the passengers as prisoners in a state of fear and anxiety, and later Iraq insolently and thievingly kept the aircraft there and not a single noise is heard anywhere in the world. Despite the fact that Iraq has been recognized as a thieving government disrupting air routes and engaging in terrorism and openly says: We give asylum to terrorists, and then proceeds to organize television interviews with them, no country and no one has protested. Iraq is one of the signatories of the Vienna agreement which stipulates the trial of hijackers and the speedy return of aircraft. Iraq previously demonstrated that it attaches importance neither to the living environment nor to the safety of sea routes. All the international forums have remained silent, whereas if the aircraft belonged to France, to the United States, or to any other country, they would have raised a cry. They have joined their voice with that of the counterrevolutionaries claiming to support the people; and one fails to understand why, under the pretext of supporting the people, they would take their country's aircraft in war time and deliver it to the enemy of this very people! They even delivered a woman in labor to the Iraqis! These people who tear their breasts out for the heroic people, for the water and soil of the homeland, how can they deliver a military aircraft to the enemy so that he can bomb Dezful, Gilan-e Gharb, Khorramabad, Marivan, and other cities?

Referring to the fact that Iran has proved that it seeks peace and that we safeguard the security of air and sea routes, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly said: They endeavored to accuse us of mining the Suez Canal so that the United States could open a foothold for itself, when as a matter of fact the United States must be kicked out from there with ignominy as happened in Lebanon.

Then, referring to the recent visit by President Khamene'i to Syria, Libya, and Algeria, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Mr Khamene'i's recent visit is part of the circumstances we are creating in order to be able to carry out our fundamental work in the future so that serious cooperation can be established between us and the progressive and Muslim forces in the region so that we can stand up to our main adversary, Israel, or perhaps even the United States; and this visit also enabled us to to stand up against a personality who wished to raise the issue of Arabs and Persians, and Shi'ites and Sunnis. [as heard]

This visit caused the closing of the ranks of the Muslim and fighting forces and resulted in clarifying the path for correct political and military movement.

In conclusion, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly expressed thanks for the assistance given by the combatants on the southern fronts, who donated 1 million rials to help the government on government week.

Joint Staff Communique No 1,849 Issued

LD131643 Tehran IRNA in English 1635 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 13, IRNA — Some 48 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded over the 24 hours preceding Thursday when their positions in the western and northwestern theatres came under artillery barrages by the Iranian forces, who checked the enemy fire and operations, inflicting substantial damages upon them.

Announcing the above the same day, the 1849th Joint Staff Command communique added that the enemy has also lost seven vehicles and 14 bunkers and lookout posts during fire exchanges between the two sides in the northwestern fronts of Hajj 'Umran, Piranshahr, and Sardasht down to the central sector of the battlefronts of the Iraqi imposed war in the said period.

Further down, in the southern theatre, artillery duels continued, raging more intense in the Shalamcheh area. All enemy movements and engineering operations in this theatre were halted by the fire of the Islamic combatants, which smashed 11 Iraqi trenches, killing or wounding more enemy troops.

The communique further said that fire exchanges also sporadically persisted in the battlefronts of the Majnun Islands and Arvand River, where Iran's Muslim forces disrupted activities and movements of the Iraqi troops, inflicting some casualties upon them during the aforementioned time.

Guards Corps Personnel Depart for Battlefronts

GF140532 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] The departure of the Islamic zealots for the fronts of the battle of right against wrong continues. According to our reports, a large number of mobilization and Islamic Revolution Guards Corps personnel of Maragheh, Gorgan, Langrud, Astaneh-Ashrafiyeh, Darrehgaz, Torbat-e Heydariyeh, and Borujen left for the fronts of the battle against the Zionist enemy in the past 2 days.

Shelling of Basra Denied as 'Mere Lie'

LD140759 Tehran IRNA in English 0752 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran Sept. 14 IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran Friday categorically denied an Iraqi claim Thursday that "a suburb of Basra" had been shelled by Iranian forces.

A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters described this Iraq claim as "a mere lie" and baseless. He said experience has shown that such Iraqi ploys are aimed at preparing the ground for the Baghdad government to continue its crimes against Iran's civil population. The WIH spokesman warned the world that the Iraqi regime intended to renew its crimes against Iranian towns and cities. The Baghdad regime has so far committed countless crimes against civilians in various Iranian cities. The latest Iraqi air raid on the city of Dezful in Khuzestan Province on June 9, 1984 resulted in martyrdom or wounding of tens of people.

Khamene'i Forms Committee for Black Americans

GF141250 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Arabic Friday sermon by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Tehran Friday imam and president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at Tehran University on 14 September — recorded]

[Text] Peace be upon Arab brothers and sisters. The comprehensive and strong moves by the Islamic Republic of Iran to bring about a new momentum in the struggle against Israel has frightened Zionist circles in the world and provoked reactions from its allies and from its overt and covert supporters.

Despite the complacency and disinterest shown by the leaders of some Muslim countries, we are determined to daily develop and crystallize this new anti-Zionist movement. The allies of the United States in the region are trying to depict the Palestinian cause as a historical issue and deprive it of the necessary attention and the sense of Arab and Muslim duty.

It is natural that the Palestinian cause does not concern the Palestinians and the Arabs alone. All Muslims must consider this issue as their cause. There is no doubt that the geographical proximity of the Arab states to this usurped land places a double responsibility on the Arab states — a responsibility we seldom sense in the Arab states. Syria stands alone among the frontline states confronting the Zionists. The traitorous rulers of Egypt — both As-Sadat and those who succeeded him — have inflicted a heavy blow on the Palestinian cause and thus have deserved eternal shame and disgrace. In appreciation of this great service to the United States and the Zionists, all the forces that are puppets of the United States and all its mercenaries have sought to bring back Egypt to the Muslim and Arab ranks — the ranks from which it was expelled for its treason to the Muslim and Arab world. To give support to Egypt now — and the agent Iraqi regime has been very anxious to render such support — is to be flagrantly hostile to the Palestinian cause and will make persistence in the Camp David policy a serious threat.

In view of the fact that we are aware of such a threat, and in view of the plot to turn the Palestinian cause into a historical issue, and in view of the pressing need to carry out urgent action to confront this threat, we visited the fraternal countries of Syria, Libya, and Algeria. In our meetings with the leaders of these countries, we discussed the imminent threat and the present circumstances in light of the Zionist presence. We proposed plans and we proposed our practical solutions to confront this threat and to confront the present circumstances. We thank God that our proposals won our brothers' approval. The issue does not stop at this point. Our indefatigable efforts to regain the rights of the Palestinian people need the cooperation of governments and peoples, and particularly of the Palestinian people and Palestinian officials. The leaders of Palestine must realize that the present stage through which the Palestinian cause is passing is not a stage in which it is possible to rely solely on political action and political initiatives. A movement which clings to political manipulation before it achieves its most elementary objectives instead of resorting to serious struggle will meet with only contempt and ridicule from its enemies. This is the regrettable

and painful state which Palestine and its unjustly treated people are facing.

We will not abandon the banner of struggle against Zionism. We have great confidence that the peoples and some governments will cooperate with us. It is natural that the struggle against the United States — the plunderer of the world's wealth and the real supporter of Zionism — is one of our basic programs. Such a program must be developed on various levels. I seize this opportunity to announce to everyone and to all peoples and particularly to free men and to the genuine champions of human rights and to all those who are prepared to contribute with their resources toward the defense of usurped and lost rights — I announce to all the formation of an international committee for the defense of Black Americans, and I urge them all wherever they are in the globe to join this committee in order to coordinate their struggle along this path.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. I advise you, O worshippers of God, to fear God and to organize your affairs. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Surely man is in the way of loss, except those who believe and do righteous deeds and counsel each other to do right and counsel each other to be steadfast. [Koranic verse]

Premier Discusses Hijackings With Airline Crews

LD131311 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] According to our correspondent, yesterday evening, a number of pilots, flight engineers, and crew members of the airline of the Islamic Republic of Iran met with Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister. In this meeting, Mr Shatti, the managing director of the airline of the Islamic Republic of Iran, submitted a report about the activities of flight cadres and the increase in the volume of their work.

Emphasizing the importance of the services of flight cadres from a cultural point of view, the prime minister talked about their important responsibility in connection with achieving the sacred goals of the Islamic Republic. In a part of his speech, the prime minister said: Airports and those who work in airports witness the clash and contact between various cultures. In every trip abroad the pilots and their colleagues come face to face with different cultures. They should know that they are faced with the danger of being influenced by foreign cultures. The domination which a foreign culture imposes upon one is very subtle. Yet the type of work of you brothers who frequently visit foreign countries brings you under the pressure of foreign cultures. However, the values brought about by our Islamic revolution should act as a weapon within your souls against the domination of foreign cultures.

In another part of his speech, referring to various conspiracies hatched by the super-powers and the enemies of the Islamic revolution in order to defeat and destroy the cultural values of the Islamic revolution, the prime minister said: Our revolution has given rise to a profound cultural change and is posing a great danger to the superpowers. Therefore, they have resorted to many plots in different forms, such as economic blockades, plots by Eastern and Western minigroups, the plan for a coup d'etat and so on. The plots still continue unabated.

The prime minister added: During the past month nearly 1,000 news items were transmitted by various Western news agencies about Iran, and I dare say that 97 percent of them have been hostile, in which they have tried to distort the features of our Islamic revolution. Therefore, you have a grave responsibility and you have a big role to play in confronting these conspiracies.

In connection with the issue of hijacking and the use which is made of it by the enemies of the revolution, the prime minister said: When a plane is hijacked in the West, say in America, the reports and commentaries about that hijacking is perhaps one-twentieth of the volume of reports which are transmitted about the hijacking of an Iranian plane. This by itself shows the use which is made by our enemies of these hijackings. In fact, by such means the superpowers wish to prevent the nations from learning about our true positions. They try to deprive us of this important weapon.

In conclusion, while expressing his appreciation for the services rendered by the flight cadres, Mr Musavi said: I am sure that despite the heavy responsibility which has been placed upon the shoulders of you brothers, with God's assistance, this new conspiracy will also be crushed. It is true that you are not on the war fronts, but your flight decks and your planes are like fronts as well and you should defend them. Once again, I wish to emphasize that your work brings you into contact with different cultures, and the skills required to deal with those contacts are even more complex than the difficult techniques of flying.

Velayati Urges 'Firmness' To Combat Hijackers

LD131624 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] Isfahan, Sept. 13, IRNA — Referring to the arrest of four terrorists, who attempted Wednesday to hijack an Iranian airplane, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said that the only way to combat air piracy is to show firmness.

Talking to IRNA here, he said the Iraqi regime is holding two hijacked Iranian planes against all international regulations.

But if the planes belonged to one of the arrogant imperialist powers, the world media would have responded firmly, he said.

Velayati added that unfortunately neither have international organizations responded correctly to the case of air piracy. The foreign minister said it has been proven that Iran can only hope to rely on itself in achieving its rights.

Official Criticizes Iraqi Remarks on Hijacking

LD131932 Tehran IRNA in English 1340 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 13, IRNA — Political undersecretary at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Thursday commented on recent statements made by the Iraqi information minister, Latif Nusayyif Jasim, that Iraq would welcome Iranian hijackers and would not return the commandeered plane.

He stressed that the Iraqi regime had so far proved that it did not attach value to humanitarian and international regulations. This time also, he added, although the Iraqi regime is itself a signatory to the 1971 convention of the Hague, it has openly acted in the contrary. This measure, Sheykh ol-Eslam noted, was the infringement of international regulations and support for terrorism and kidnapping which would disturb aviation security all over the world.

The Iranian official emphasised that the Iraqi minister's statement indicated that if the present regime in Iraq was going to remain, it would continue creating tension and being nonchalant towards international standards. Therefore, he said, such statements further strengthened Iran's stance that the overthrow of the present Iraqi regime and the Ba'th Party of that country was a necessary means to preserve peace and security in the region.

Referring to Iraqi indifference towards world public opinion and international societies on safeguarding the safety of aviation, Sheykh ol-Eslam said that the Iraqi minister's statements were a strong document for that regime's ill intentions and acts against world society. He reiterated that failure of international organisations in taking a decisive stance vis-a-vis terrorism and kidnapping committed by the Baghdad regime had incited the regime to the extent that it openly supported such terroristic acts. The Iranian Foreign Ministry official further stressed that failure in taking effective measures in this respect would encourage its continuation which would entail irreparable consequences in the international arena.

Hijack Attempts Planned by 'Enemies of Islam'

LD131016 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] As a result of the revolutionary measures taken yesterday to foil the desperate attempt to hijack a passenger aircraft on the Tehran-Shiraz route, the veil was removed from a number of conspiracies of the enemies of Islam to strike against the Islamic revolution. According to IRNA, as a result of the vigilance of officials and after investigating the issues in connection with a number of recent hijacking attempts, it was made clear that the agents of world arrogance, in accordance with a program dictated to them by foreigners, have started a large-scale effort to strike against the Islamic Republic by means of hijacking. Yesterday's foiled hijacking on the Tehran-Shiraz route revealed the plots of the enemies of Islam. According to IRNA, the hijackers of an Airbus passenger plane who were arrested yesterday confessed that they belong to the hypocrites [mojahedin-e khalq] and that they were implementing a plan and policy dictated to them by the agents of world arrogance outside the country. In the past, the hijackers of the Airbus and Boeing 727 passenger planes, who had taken the planes to Baghdad, revealed themselves in the guise of nonpolitical individuals or as being affiliated to other subservient groups.

In this connection, and informed source told our correspondent: Yesterday's foiling of the hijacking of the Airbus revealed the conspiracy of the enemies of Islam against our martyr-nurturing ummah. The failure of that conspiracy not only reveals the large-scale plan of the counterrevolutionaries in which undoubtedly foreign governments are also involved, it is also a new chapter in a decisive battle against hijacking. He emphasized: The Muslim Iranian ummah has so far succeeded in confronting all the conspiracies of the enemies of Islam attempting to strike blows against the Islamic revolution and emerge victorious.God willing, this vile conspiracy which was decisively confronted by yesterday's revolutionary measures will also fail.

It should be noted that one Airbus, flight number 427, which left Tehran yesterday morning at 1140 for Shiraz, was hijacked by four terrorists. However, as a result of prearranged measures, the hijackers were decisively confronted and all four terrorists — two of whom had been wounded — were arrested and the plane landed safely at Isfahan Airport at 1300. The passengers were taken to their destinations.

Media Official on Jamming of Broadcasts

GF140650 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] In a statement to our correspondent on 12 September, Mohammad Hashemi, managing director of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran — who had gone to Tabriz to inaugurate a powerful television transmitter — referred to the wide-scale propaganda campaigns waged by the imperialist information media against the Islamic revolution. He said: The propaganda war that is being waged by international arrogance against the Islamic Republic of Iran is much more significant than the traditional war in which military hardware and weapons are used. At present there are more than 40 radio transmitters broadcasting propaganda programs in Persian aimed against the Islamic revolution from big and small countries.

Mohammad Hashemi added: The arrogant powers of the East and the West have recently — in violation of international norms and conventions — jammed the frequencies used by the external services of the radio of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The arrogant powers of the East and the West have spent almost $250 million during last month alone in order to jam 17 frequencies on both shortwave and mediumwave frequencies on which the programs of Islamic Iran are broadcast. The managing director of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran spoke about the technical projects that are being implemented by his organization. He said: The broadcasts that are beamed outside the country by the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran are communicating the just and right call of the Islamic revolution to the world. Programs in 15 different languages are broadcast. The influence of these programs is much greater than the imperialist information media.